

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended): A silicon carbide powder produced by ~~[[the]]~~ a method of producing a silicon carbide powder according to claim 1 comprising sintering a mixture containing at least a silicon source and a carbon source, wherein the carbon source is a xylene-based resin.

14. (Original): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, wherein the nitrogen content is 100ppm or less.

15. (Original): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, wherein the nitrogen content is 50ppm or less.

16. (Original): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13 wherein the content of impurity elements is 0.3 ppm or less.

17. (Original): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, wherein the volume-average particle size (D_{50}) is 1 to 500 μm .

18. (Original): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, wherein the particle size distribution (D_{90}/D_{10}) is 4 or less.